

Message Series Guide
Summer on the Mount
Part 4 – Divorce + Oaths
Matthew 5:31-37



Marriage is not easy. It requires a foundation of truth and reconciliation. Truth and integrity are found in a pure heart. When we seek to live a life of truth in all areas, we can experience the power of the Kingdom Life.

READ:

Matthew 5:31-37 • Deuteronomy 24:1 • Matthew 19:6 • Leviticus 19:12 • Proverbs 28:6

DISCUSS:

- The religious leaders of Jesus' day had created an easy-divorce culture? Do we experience an easy-divorce culture today? Why or why not?
- What was the only exception Jesus gave for divorce? Are there any other exceptions mentioned in the Scripture?
- In what ways is Jesus' prohibition of divorce a good thing for us? Why does Jesus desire reconciliation in marriage?
- How can divorce and remarriage result in adultery?
- The religious leaders were using loopholes in how they spoke and took oaths. How are we tempted today to find loopholes in how we speak?
- Is a partial truth the same as a lie? Why or why not?
- Why are we often tempted to lie or tell partial truths? What underlying motivations cause us to do this, and what does this say about the desires of our hearts?

PRAY:

Pray that your *yes* be *yes*, and your *no* be *no*.

RESPOND:

Consider the ways you can live for truth this week in your marriage, family, workplace, church and community.